

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A skive plate assembly for aiding receiver sheet removal from a roller in a fuser in an electrographic process, comprising:  
a base plate;  
a skive plate having a central portion; and,  
a skive plate attachment rigidly connecting the skive plate to said base plate such that said base plate and said skive plate define an air passage slot intermittently interrupted by said skive plate attachment, the skive plate defining a terminal edge positioned to face the roller, wherein a distance between the terminal edge and the base plate decreases with distance from said skive plate central portion.

2. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 1 wherein said air passage slot is approximately 3/16 to 1/2 inch wide along the length of said skive plate.

3. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1, wherein the skive plate terminal edge defines a gap with the roller, wherein the gap between the terminal edge and the roller is constant along the length of said skive plate.

4. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1 wherein said base plate and said skive plate are at a greater than 90 degree angle relative to each other.

5. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1 wherein said base plate and said skive plate are at an approximately 94 degree angle relative to each other.

6. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1, wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller.

7. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1, wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller and composed of flat facets.

8. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 1, wherein said skive plate further defines a the trailing edge which opposes said skive plate terminal edge, wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller and composed of three flat facets with one of the facets, a base facet, extending along said skive plate trailing edge, and the other two facets beginning from the central portion and extending outward in opposite directions along the length of the skive plate.

9. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 8 wherein said skive plate has a the terminal edge positioned to face the roller, wherein the terminal edge defines a gap with the roller, wherein the gap between the terminal edge and the base plate is constant along the length of said skive plate.

10. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1 further comprising at least one skive blade mounted on said skive plate, extending towards the roller.

11. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1 further comprising one skive blade mounted on said skive plate central portion, extending towards the roller.

12. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 1, wherein said skive plate further defines a trailing edge which opposes said skive plate terminal edge, further comprising a skive blade mounted on said skive plate central portion, extending towards the roller, and wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller and composed of three flat facets with one of the facets, a base facet, extending along said skive plate trailing edge, and the other two beginning from opposing edges of the skive blade and extending outward in opposite directions along the length of the skive plate.

13. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 12 wherein said base facet is at approximately a 94 degree angle relative the said base plate, and wherein the other two facets angle approximately 28 degrees from the base facet towards the base plate, and extend outward in opposite directions along the length of the skive plate at approximately a 7 degree angle with respect to the skive plate ~~terminal~~ trailing edge.

14. (Currently Amended) A skive plate assembly for aiding receiver sheet removal from a roller in a fuser in an electrographic process, comprising:

- a base plate;
- a skive plate having a central portion; and,
- a skive plate attachment rigidly connecting said skive plate to said base plate such that said base plate and said skive plate define an air passage slot intermittently interrupted by said skive plate attachment, the skive plate defining a terminal edge positioned to face the roller, wherein a distance between the terminal edge and the base plate decreases with distance from the plate central portion, and wherein the terminal edge defines a gap with the roller, wherein the gap between the terminal edge and the roller is constant along the length of said skive plate.

15. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 14 wherein said air passage slot is approximately 3/16 to 1/2 inch wide along the length of said skive plate.

16. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 14, wherein a distance between the terminal edge and the base plate decreases with distance from the central portion.

17. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 14 wherein said base plate and said skive plate are at a greater than 90 degree angle relative to each other.

18. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 14 wherein said base plate and said skive plate are at an approximately 94 degree angle relative to each other.

19. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 14, wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller.

20. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 14, wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller and composed of flat facets.

21. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 14, wherein said skive plate further defines a trailing edge which opposes said skive plate terminal edge, wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller and composed of three flat facets with one of the facets, a base facet, extending along said skive plate trailing edge, and the other two facets beginning from the central portion and extending outward in opposite directions along the length of the skive plate.

22. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 21 wherein said skive plate has a the terminal edge positioned to face the roller, wherein the terminal edge defines a the gap with the roller, wherein the gap between the terminal edge and the base plate is constant along the length of said skive plate.

23. (Original) The skive plate assembly of claim 14 further comprising at least one skive blade mounted on said skive plate, extending towards the roller.

~~25.~~ 24. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 14 further comprising one skive blade mounted on said skive plate central portion, extending towards the roller.

~~26.~~ 25. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim 14, wherein said skive plate further defines a trailing edge which opposes said skive plate terminal edge, further comprising a skive blade mounted on said skive plate central portion, extending towards the roller, and wherein the skive plate comprises a skive plate surface convex toward the roller and composed of three flat facets with one of the facets, a base facet, extending along said skive plate trailing edge, and the other two beginning from opposing edges of the skive blade and extending outward in opposite directions along the length of the skive plate.

~~27.~~ 26. (Currently Amended) The skive plate assembly of claim ~~26~~ 25 wherein said base facet is at approximately a 94 degree angle relative the said base plate, and wherein the other two facets angle approximately 28 degrees from the base facet towards the base plate, and extend outward in opposite directions along the length of the skive plate at approximately a 7 degree angle with respect to the skive plate ~~terminal~~ trailing edge.